3.2.5.1 EXTREME HEAT

Description of Extreme Heat: **Extreme Heat,** persistent and unusually high temperatures and high humidity or temperatures that are above average.

<u>Location</u>

Extreme heat affects all of the entire El Paso County, Town of Anthony, Town of Vinton, City of El Paso, City of Socorro, City of Horizon, and Town of Clint area uniformly and does not vary by location.

<u>Extent</u>

The highest temperature recorded in the region that includes El Paso County and the six participating jurisdictions is 114 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), which occurred in June 1994 (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, 2012).

The previous plan defined extreme heat as occurring when temperatures hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region for several weeks.

<u>Previous Occurrences</u>

SHELDUS data only listed extreme heat as having occurred in the County on two separate occasions during the period of 1962 through 2008:

- June 1990
- June 1994

There were no previous occurrences for extreme heat listed for El Paso County, City of El Paso, Village of Vinton, Town of Anthony, Town of Anthony, City of Socorro, and Town of Clint during the period of 2009 through December 31, 2014.

<u>Probability</u>

Because two separate occurrences of extreme heat have been identified over the 47-year period from 1962 through 2008, the probability of experiencing extreme heat conditions in any given year is estimated as 2/47 or 4 percent. There is scientific evidence suggesting that prolonged periods of extreme heat are increasingly likely in the future in the planning area (FEMA, 2011).

<u>Vulnerability</u>

Within the planning area (El Paso County to include Town of Anthony, Village of Vinton, City of El Paso, Town of Horizon City, City of Socorro, and Town Clint), the most vulnerable and most impacted populations are to all hazards identified in this plan: elderly, special needs individuals, infants, and children. All participating jurisdictions are vulnerable to extreme heat due to the County's elevation of